

Holy Eucharist

Sunday October 5, 2025 10:00 am

St. Francis Sunday Blessing of the Beasts



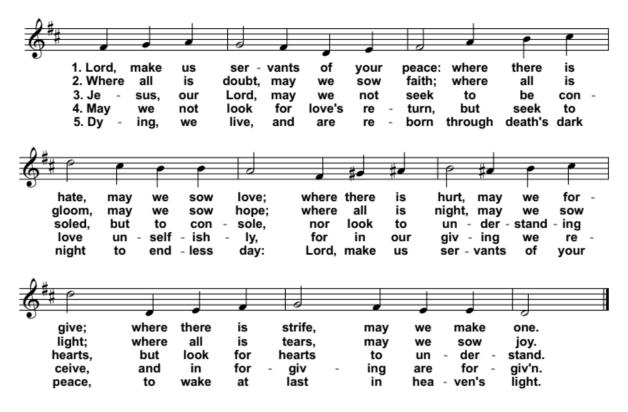
Liturgy of the Word

Opening Hymn

People stand as able.

Lord, make us servants of your peace

Dickinson College



Collect of the Day

Presider Blessed be the God of all creation.

People And blessed be God's holy Name for ever and ever.

Presider The Lord be with you. People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord: Grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may for love of you delight in your whole creation with perfect joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

First Reading Genesis 2:18-25

The people are seated

Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air and brought them to the man to see what he would call them, and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle and to the birds of the air and to every animal of the field, but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken."

Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

Psalm 148

- 1 Alleluia! Praise God from the heavens; * sing praise in the heights.
- 2 Praise God, all you angels; * sing praise, all the heavenly host.
- 3 Praise God, sun and moon; * sing praise, all you shining stars.
- 4 Praise God, heaven of heavens * and you waters above the heavens.
- 5 Let them praise the Name of God, * by whose command they were created.
- 6 God made them stand fast for ever and ever, * and gave them a law which shall not pass away.
- 7 Praise God from the earth, * you sea-monsters and all deeps;
- 8 Fire and hail, snow and fog, * tempestuous wind, doing God's will;
- 9 Mountains and all hills, * fruit trees and all cedars;
- 10 Wild beasts and all cattle, * creeping things and winged birds;
- 11 Sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, * leaders and all rulers of the world;
- 12 Young men and maidens, * old and young together.
- 13 Let them praise your Name, O God, * for your Name only is exalted; your splendor is over earth and heaven.
- 14 You have raised up strength for your people and praise for all your loyal servants, *
 the children of Israel, a people who are near you. Alleluia!

The Saint Helena Psalter Translation

Second Reading Revelation 5:11-14

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice,

"Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea and all that is in them, singing,

"To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"

And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

Lector The Word of the Lord. People Thanks be to God.



Holy Gospel Matthew 6:25-29

Remain standing

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these.

Deacon The Gospel of our Savior.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon The Rev. Kelly Kirby

Seated

Litany of Thanks

Remain standing

Presider Let us name with thanksgiving those animals for whom we care: (pause) _____.

Let us name with thanksgiving those animals who have been our companions over the years and are no

longer with us: (pause) .

And let us remember the unnamed, unknown animals whose lives have benefited our own. Amen.

Intercessor Let us give thanks to God our Father for all gifts so freely bestowed upon us, for the beauty and

wonder of your creation, in earth, sky and sea.

People For the richness of mountains, plains and rivers.

Intercessor For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,

People For all creatures that breathe, and move, and have life.

Intercessor For all the songs of birds, and the loveliness of the seasons.

People For the trust you have shown us in giving into our care these, our pets.

Intercessor We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Intercessor People That we may love and honor all your works, O God.

Intercessor We lift up our prayers for anyone we now name: _____. And we pray for those entrusted to our prayers:

Janelle, Kevin, Candis, Vicki, Karl, Melinda, Len, Kinsey, Granville, JP & Family, Al, and Beverly.

People That they may be delivered from their distress.

Intercessor We pray for those we now name who have died _____, and those known to God alone: Phil and Anne

Ardery, Mr. and Mrs. George Ogilvie, Jr.

People Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Presider Holy God: No sparrow falls without your attention; nothing dies that is lost to you; nothing comes into being

without your love. Give us just and compassionate hearts, that we may serve the earth and all its creatures, holding fast to the vision of your peaceable reign in which all will live with you eternally; through the Risen

One, Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing of the Animals

Presider It is the priestly work of all God's people to give thanks for God's blessings, to ask for and lend assistance to

all in need, and to stretch our hands to heal and cherish the creatures of God; this is our work of blessing. Recognizing God's love for these creatures, I invite you to bring forward the animals entrusted to your care,

one by one, and to join me in the laying on of hands in prayer.

The animals are blessed individually by name by the Priests.

Presider Let us pray.

People God of manifold blessings, source of all that is good and true and holy: Raise us up to see the world

through your eyes, so that with the eyes of our hearts enlightened, we may treasure each creature touched by your creative hand. May your bountiful blessing be upon us all, Creator, Redeemer, and

Sanctifier, now and for ever. Amen.

Peace

The people stand as able

Presider The peace of the Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

Announcements and Celebrations

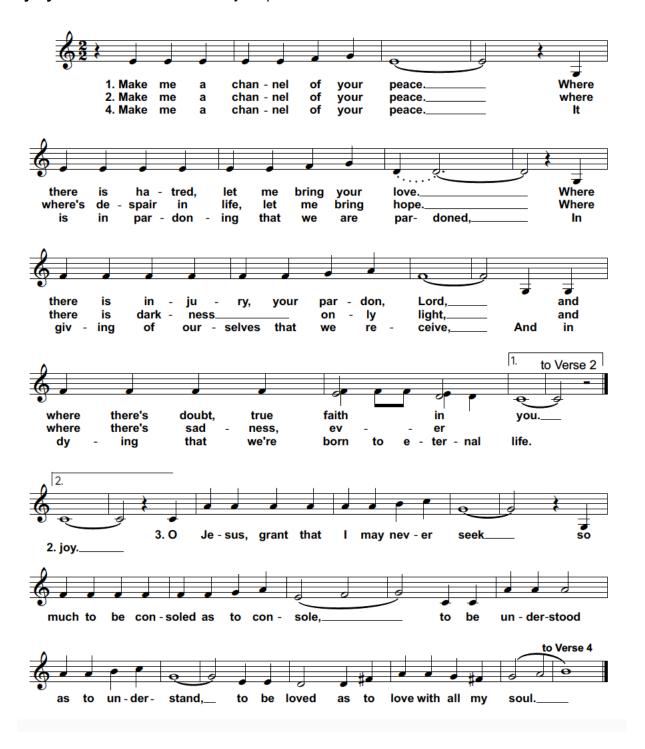
Seated

Birthday Collect

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through, Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Holy Communion

During the offertory, please consider the gifts God has given you, and give generously. Your gift will help us continue vital ministries. Our online giving works well, as does our text to give option. Please use this link for online giving. https://secure.subsplash.com/ui/access/5QFR9K/





The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

The people remain standing.

Presider The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Presider continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

The Presider says a proper preface

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus Franz Schubert

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest. Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

The People stand or kneel as the prayer continues

The Presider continues

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all. Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Presider and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Presider then continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Presider

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

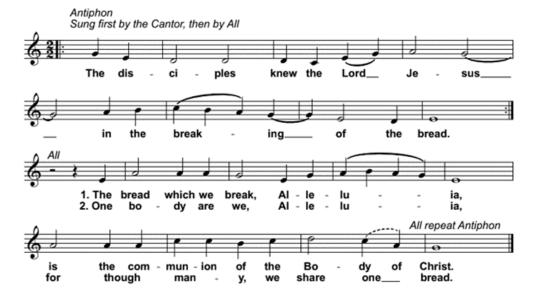
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem: The disciples knew the Lord Jesus

Jack W. Burnam



The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All who seek God and are drawn to God through Christ are welcome to receive communion. If for any reason you do not desire to receive communion, you may come to the altar rail and cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing. If you need gluten-free bread, please ask the priest giving out bread. You are welcome to receive both bread and wine, or just bread. Christ is fully present in both or either the bread and wine.



Eucharistic Visitors may be commissioned

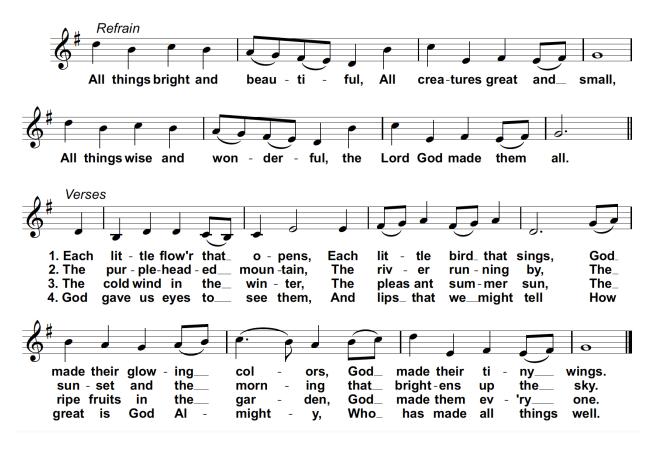
Postcommunion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

Presider and People say the prayer attributed to St. Francis

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

The Blessing



Dismissal

The Deacon says the dismissal, and then the people say:

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

Cantor: Corey Logsdon

Guest Musicians: Steve Cherry, Dan Worley



October 5, 2025

NEW AND NOTEWORTHY

Sunday's Flowers. The Sunday flowers praise God in a special way. There is something of a riddle contained in all the flowers and plant material. Can you tell what they all have in common? Take a look and think...and enjoy. There is also one plant that is NOT like the others but it is special too: its name is Heaven Bamboo.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Home & Garden Sale. We received many, many wonderful donations that made the sale a definitive success. St. Matthew's parishioners not only donated two pods worth of furniture, collectibles and more, but more importantly, their time (perhaps even more valuable....). We had a large group of volunteers who generously organized and arranged items and helped with customer service, pricing, and sales. It's was, overall, a spectacular event. And we are firmly convinced that everyone who made purchases went home happy. FYI, our current total from the sale exceeds \$11K, and is still growing.

Memorial Garden clean-up. The final work day for fall cleanup in the Memorial Garden will be Friday, October 10, 10a - noon. There will be some light tasks and, if we have enough hands, some harder ones. Postponed if raining. Contact LaVonne at Ifingerson@att.net with questions.

Newcomers Classes. The first Newcomers Class is next week October 12. These series of four classes are for anyone new to the parish or anyone who wants to learn more about the Episcopal Church and how to get involved in mission and/or ministry here at St. Matthew's. The first class is October 12, and we will tour the church campus, on subsequent Sunday's we review church polity, outreach programs and ministries. Each class is completely independent, so you can attend all or only one. We'll meet in Myll Chapel after the 10a service. If you have any questions or are interested in the class, please contact The Rev. Suzanne Barrow, sbarrow@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org

Friends and Family of Dementia Support Group. The group will meet Wednesday, October 15 at 11a in Clingman Hall. Our speaker is Caitlin Zoeller from Norton Neuroscience Institute Memory Care Center. She will be providing contact information on community resources which might be helpful to those who are caring for a loved one having memory issues.

Looking ahead to next month, be advised the November meeting will be for Caregivers only. November's topic is on managing stress during the holiday season. The speaker will be Katherine Freeman from Norton Neuroscience Institute Memory Care Center.

GROW

Macaron Skill Sharing class with Joanne Coleman, Oct. 4, 9a-12p. Signup today for Saturday's class – only four spots remain open. Our Parish Accountant will teach us how to make the sweet treat, French Macarons, Saturday, October 4, from 9a-12. This is an opportunity to have an in-person baking experience with Joanne. Fee is \$10, and all proceeds of our Skill Sharing classes and support Simmons College of Kentucky,

Louisville's historically Black college. Register: https://subsplash.com/stmatthewsepiscopal/lb/ev/+qkbf7yx.

Visit the Abbey of Gethsemani on October 16. We will depart church at 9a and return mid to late afternoon. Join us to experience the peace of the Abbey, visit Thomas Merton's grave, worship with the Brothers, and have lunch at the Old Talbott Tavern. If interested, contact Bob Nesmith (bnesmith@mindspring.com or text/call 502-777-0898).

Clingman Forum returns October 12. Clingman Forum, our weekly roundtable conversation in Clingman Chapel following the 10 o'clock Eucharist, continues on break this week to make way for Sunday's Blessing of the Beasts in Saints Hall. Our weekly discussions on the unexpected connections between theology and current world, national, and local news will return next Sunday, October 12.

Join our adult education email list to stay fully informed about our Sunday in-person and Monday night Zoom sessions and occasional Pub Theology gatherings. Contact Robin Garr (robingarr@gmail.com) to add your name to the list.

Going Deeper Spiritually. We will be reading *How We Learn to Be Brave* by Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde. Bishop Budde is the brave, outspoken leader of the Washington National Cathedral. We meet the 2nd and 4th Thursdays starting at 9:45a for check-in, and the official meeting is 10 -11:30a. To join, email or call Ellie Britt (ellie451@yahoo.com 305-776-8989), and you will receive a link 2 days before the meeting along with the reading schedule. All are welcome to join us!

Virtual Adult Education: Borg on Jesus, continued. This week Virtual Adult Education will continue our focus on Marcus Borg, the beloved theologian who was our Dimensions of Faith speaker in 2011. We'll view and discuss a video produced in Missoula, Montana, in that same year: Borg will talk at length on "Jesus in the 1st and 21st century," based on his book, *Jesus: The Life, Teachings, and Relevance of a Religious Revolutionary*.

Join us in Virtual Adult Education via Zoom on Monday, October 6, from 6 to 7:15p, for the second segment of this series. If you participate regularly, you are already registered for Monday's session and will receive an email invitation weekly on Mondays with Zoom information. If you aren't on the list, please contact Robin Garr by email at robingarr@gmail.com to receive your Zoom invitation by email or text.

The Constitution and Us Skill Sharing resources online! Thanks to all who attended the St. Matthew's Constitution Project's Skill Sharing program on Sept. 18. Whether you were able to join us or missed the event, you're welcome to browse the five speakers' resource materials at this link on the website: https://bit.ly/SMConstResources

Women in Conversation. The group will meet on Tuesday, October 7, from noon to 1:30p at the church. We'll discuss Chapter 2 of *Freeing Jesus*, by Diana Butler Bass. All women are welcome. For more information, contact_judith.fischer@louisville.edu

Monday Bible Study with the Rector at 10a in the library. We begin with chit-chat and then progress into a discussion of scripture. All are welcome.

SERVE

Scarf Ministry. Many thanks to all who contributed hand knitted or crocheted scarves and hats, etc. for the Kentucky Refugees Ministry. If you would like to participate in this rewarding ministry and need more

information, please text or call Sarah Weston at 502-645 2025 or email srweston00@gmail.com.

WORSHIP

Illuminations. In the readings chosen for our Blessing of the Beasts on St. Francis Day, we hear consistent reminders that not only humankind but our animal friends, the birds of the air, and all the plants that grow are all part of God's creation. This passage from the second creation narrative in Genesis does not only tell the legend of God creating Eve from Adam's rib. It invites us to think about all creation and our universal call to be responsible for our relationships with plants, animals, and each other.

To read this week's Illuminations for all of Sunday's lessons, please visit: https://www.stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org/sermons-and-illuminations.

Consecrated Communion is available to be picked up during office hours. Consecrated wafers are in sealed bags in Myll Chapel if you would like to come to pick up a package for yourself and your family. If you are interested in receiving communion, but are unable to drive to the church, contact Kelly at kkirby@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org.

10a Wednesday Healing Eucharist. The service is held in Myll Chapel. The service is also streamed on our Facebook page.

Daughters of the King prayer box. Please email your prayers regarding a person of concern to Sarah Johansen, dsjohansen99@gmail.com. Requests remain on the confidential prayer list for 1 month unless otherwise requested.

Listening-assist technology in the nave. If you have a hearing aid that is t-coil compatible, our listening-assist system feeds audio into your hearing aid. To learn more, visit the Accessibility/Inclusivity page on our website: stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org/accessibility-inclusivity

Weekly Prayer List. Sarah and Stephen Weston, George Wheeler, Joe and Karen White, Marsha White, the Wilhem family, Heather Williams, Sarah Williams, Alice and John Willingham, Monica Willis, Peggy Woolley.

Prayers for Pastoral Care. Janelle, Kevin Wardell, Candis Crocker, Vicki, Karl, Melinda Clark, Len Pacitti, Kinsey Woodson, Granville, JP and family, Al Nimocks, Beverly Nichols.

Flowers given in memory of: Phil and Anne Ardery, Mr. and Mrs. George Ogilvie, Jr.

We pray for those serving in our Armed Forces.

LAY SUNDAY MINISTERS SERVING THIS WEEK

Altar Guild
Gibbs Reese
Lynn Reese
Flower Guild
Janet Dougherty

8a Librarian Marilyn Scholl

10am Eucharist

Delilah Niehaus Acolyte Ryan Fenwick Lector Phil Eschels Lector Rick Lotz Intercessor Jan Scholt5z **Eucharistic Minister Greg Petrites** Usher Lowry Adams Usher **Emily Pruett** Greeter Welcome Desk Lavonne Fingerson **Greeter Narthex** Sally Macdonald **Greeter Entrance** Jon Hardy Librarian

5pm Eucharist

Mark Ash
Vicki Zurlage
Bess Cleveland
Marilyn Keith
Lector
Intercessor
Usher

GENERAL NOTICES

Parish office hours. Monday through Thursday, 9a – 3p; Friday 10a – 12p.

Weekly 12-step and other meetings at St. Matthew's. Al-Anon on Tuesdays at 6:30p (Lounge); AA on Tuesdays at 6:30p (Clingman Chapel); Ladies AA on Fridays at 11:30a (Meeting Room A); evening AA on Fridays at 6:30p (Clingman Chapel); Newcomers' AA on Fridays at 6:45p (Lounge).

Survivors of Suicide (SOS). The group meets every Thursday at 7:30p in the Lounge. There's no meeting on the fifth Thursday of a five-week month.

Library hours. The library is open for self-checkout on Sundays from 8:45a–12p, and a librarian is available from 9:15–9:45a, and from 11:15a–12p. It is open weekdays by appointment. To schedule an appointment, call 895-3485 or email library@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org. When the building is open, books on the narthex cart may be borrowed by filling out a card as instructed.

Church archives. The parish archives have a large collection of historical images and materials that document the history of St. Matthew's. Ask the archivist for help, when they are present, or arrange an appointment by emailing archives@stmatthewsepicopallouisville.org

Visioning videos: Sharing Our Story. Where we have been influences where we're headed. If you'd like to learn more about St. Matthew's past, please click here: stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org/church-history-archives

Episcopal News Service newsletter. This newsletter reports the latest news on the Episcopal Church's mission and ministries in the U.S. and abroad. Current advocacy efforts on immigration, the crisis in Gaza and other human rights issues are covered.

https://episcopalnewsservice.org/email-signup/

Joanne Coleman is a Notary Public. As a service to our parishioners, Joanne is available to notarize documents. If you have need of these services, make an appointment with Joanne during her office hours.

Service bulletins are available online to download. Go to our website homepage: www.stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org.

The parish directory is online. You can access the parish directory online, through our app (St. Matthew's Episcopal – found on Android Play Store and Apple Store). If you have never accessed the directory online before, or you experience any issues, contact <u>Joanne Coleman</u>.

Bulletin and eSpirit announcements. The deadline for submissions is Tuesdays at noon. Please send your submissions to <u>Charles Frank</u>.

Do you subscribe to the eSpirit? To receive a digital version of the announcements, visit: stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org/espirit/

The St. Matthew's App. Free at Google Play and the Apple App Store.

	August		YTD		Annual
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget
TOTAL INCOME	72,942	83,082	529,072	494,171	765,730
TOTAL EXPENSE	63,348	71,026	581,293	581,276	897,017
Released from Restricted Funds	11,112	(8,679)	(38,438)	(71,867)	(131,450
NET INCOME/(EXPENSE)	(1,518)	20,735	(13,783)	(15,238)	163